I read about Sinclair Broadcastings plans to air a program "Stolen Honor" on over 60 stations across the country recently in the newspaper. I feel strongly that this type of partison programming is inappropriate for public broadcast, especially considering it does not serve the community's interest. It is also inappropriate for a parent company like Sinclair to instruct stations to interupt regularly scheduled programming to air a slanderous, politically motivated program such as Stolen Honor.

A parent company instructing it's stations to air a program that unfairly assaults a presidential candidate's character in the final weeks of a campaign is an outrage. I feel strongly that the community has every right to expect that those stations which have been granted access to the public airwaves demonstrate fairness in their selection of programming.

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the

public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.